

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ADP-00 COME-00 RSC-01 /024 R

DRAFTED BY EB/ ORF/ ICD- JBKYLE: MW

4/27/73 X27952

APPROVED BY EB/ ORF/ ICD- JBKYLE

ARA/ MEX- RFKING

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R 272345 Z APR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

UNCLAS STATE 080401

E. O. 11652 N/ A

TAGS: EIND, BTRA, MX

SUBJECT: STEEL SERVICE CENTER INSTITUTE (SSCI)

1. SSCI WILL HOLD ANNUAL CONVENTION IN DALLAS IN MAY. FOLLOWING THE CONVENTION, SSCI PRESIDENT ROBERT WELCH AND APPROXIMATELY TWENTY MEMBERS (PLUS WIVES) WILL VISIT MEXICO, ENDING UP IN MEXICO CITY MAY 21-25. WELCH HAS ASKED DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANCE IN ARRANGING STANDARD EMBASSY BRIEFING FOR GROUP, PREFERABLY MORNING OF MAY 23, ON CURRENT MEXICAN POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SCENE.

2. SSCI CONSISTS OF 350 COMPANIES WHICH OPERATE SOME 900 STEEL DISTRIBUTION PLANTS LOCATED IN ALL FIFTY STATES. IT IS THE PRINCIPAL STEEL DISTRIBUTION TRADE ASSOCIATION, ITS MEMBERS ACCOUNTING FOR APPROXIMATELY 80 PERCENT OF THE STEEL DISTRIBUTION INDUSTRY'S TOTAL ANNUAL SALES OF NINE BILLION DOLLARS. IN 1972 THE INDUSTRY SOLD FIFTEEN MILLION TONS OF STEEL MILL PRODUCTS, MAKING IT THE SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT CUSTOMER OF THE STEEL INDUSTRY.

3. ASSUMING EMBASSY IS ABLE TO ARRANGE BRIEFING WE WOULD APPRECIATE NAME OF OFFICER WELCH CAN CONTACT REGARDING TIME AND PLACE. SSCI GROUP WILL ARRIVE MEXICO CITY ON UNCLASSIFIED

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MAY 21 AND WILL BE AT CAMINO REAL. ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE080401
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JBKYLE: MW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730453/aaaaixyo.tel
Line Count: 63
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kellerpr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26-Nov-2001 by elbezefj>; APPROVED <01 MAR 2002 by kellerpr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 980203
Subject: STEEL SERVICE CENTER INSTITUTE (SSCI)
TAGS: BTRA, EIND, MX
To: MEXICO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005